

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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1. The Interior Guard Corps (VS - Vnitřní stráž) is a new corps of political police which is organized along military lines. Its duties are to consist of supervising and maintaining order in the interior of Czechoslovakia in the same way that the Border Guard (PS) does along the borders. The functions of the VS are to be exclusively political.
2. The officers of the VS are to be working class men without any professional training but entirely devoted to the Communist cause.

3. [ ] the reason for the creation of the VS was that Karel Bacilek, the Minister for National Security, organized the Corps in order to counterbalance Soviet influence and retain power in Czechoslovak hands. In the summer of 1952 the Soviets had demanded that the Ministry of National Security be subordinated to Soviet officials just as the Ministry for National Defense had been virtually taken over by Soviet officers. A Soviet police mission had been dispatched to Prague for the purpose of taking over the ministry.

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Any question of Czech patriotism would smack of Titoism, and that is out of the question in Czechoslovakia. This is absurd in any event in the case of Bacilek, who, more than anybody else, is completely Moscow-trained and Moscow-oriented, with no personal roots in Czechoslovakia. Nor does it seem that the VS will be a new type of super-police destined to guard the existing security organs, but rather a very low-echelon organization which will reach into remote villages. It will be, it appears, an addition to the existing political and physical control of the country that will cover even the smallest hamlets in the provinces.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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